
The Hermon Connection

Vol. 23 Issue 5 • Sept 2017

HERMON FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OPEN HOUSE! OCTOBER 14th FROM 10:30am UNTIL 2:00pm



The members of the Hermon Fire Department invite you to join us on October 14th from 10:30am until 2:00pm for our 2nd annual Fire Prevention Week Open House! Hot dogs and hamburgers will be served beginning at 11:30am. There will be many great activities for both children and adults! Our station and equipment will be open and available for your inspection! Additionally, Hermon Rescue and our Sheriff's department will have equipment on display.

Lots of fun and plenty of FREE fire safety give a ways for the kids and adults too!

Have the kids' pictures taken with Sparky the Fire Dog and Smokey the Bear! The Sheriff's Department will also have the Iris Scan child ID service available for those that wish to take advantage of it. This was a very popular program last year!

A highlight of last year's open house was our raffle for two kids to win rides to school in a fire engine! We will be holding this year's raffle at the close of the day and you do not need be present to win.

We hope you will join us on October 14th!



Town of Hermon
Howard Kroll
Town Manager
PO Box 6300
Hermon, ME 04402
207-848-1010
Fax: 207-848-3316
krollh@hermon.net
www.hermon.net

The Hermon Connection

If you have a news story or article for publication in the next edition of

The Hermon Connection,

please send it to:

scottwl@hermon.net

Deadline for submissions:
October 23, 2017

School is in Session

Please be aware of students and buses.

School is back in session!!



From the Town Manager

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ADDITION PROJECT :



The Hermon Town Council approved a Guaranteed Maximum Price of \$4.8 million to renovate the Patricia A. Duran Elementary School by adding a new wing for classrooms. Hermon Voters authorized spending up to \$6.9 million toward this project. Dunbar and Brawn of Bangor will start immediately on the groundwork and work over the winter until its completion slated for August 2018. This is great news and will help address some of the classroom space problems the school is experiencing.

HERMON RECREATION RENOVATION PROJECT: Dunbar and Brawn of Bangor was recently selected to renovate the Patricia A. Duran Elementary School by renovating space for the Hermon Recreation Department. Hermon Voters authorized spending up to \$900,000 toward this project. Dunbar and Brawn have estimated that the project will be closer to \$777,000. We are early into the planning phase of this project but thus far we appear to be staying well within our authorized amount. Future Hermon Connection editions will include periodic updates on this project.

ROAD PROJECTS: Currently the Town is working on road projects throughout the community. Newburgh Road and Coldbrook Road have been ongoing projects that are jointly funded with the Maine Department of Transportation. Other road projects are moving forward for pavement and or drainage concerns.

SUMMER SIZZLER: Many thanks to Michelle Thayer, her staff, volunteers and generous sponsors who made the Summer Sizzler a huge success! The turnout was more than anticipated and we look forward to next year's event! Well done!

BEST WISHES: Michelle Thayer, Hermon Recreation Director, has submitted her resignation effective August 31, 2017. Michelle has been a great employee and ambassador for the town for the last 10 years. Her enthusiasm and commitment to the Town and our citizens have contributed greatly to the quality of life we have come to enjoy. She will be greatly missed! I wish Michelle and her family the very best in their future endeavors!

SEWER BILLS: For those residents who live within the area serviced by the Bangor Sewer Department I strongly encourage you to call them if you have questions regarding your bill or service. In case you were unaware, the Town of Hermon signed a 30 year contract in 1996 with the City of Bangor to provide the Town with public sewer connection. Since 1996 the Town of Hermon now has nearly 250 residences and or businesses connected to the Bangor Sewer Department. It is YOUR responsibility to pay your bill with the City of Bangor. Not paying your bill WILL impact your credit and may result in both a lien being placed on your property and the Town seeking legal action. Feel free to contact the Bangor Waste Water Department at 992-4477.

On behalf of the Town of Hermon Town Council and Staff we wish you all a great fall! To all the students returning to school- WELCOME BACK! Good luck to our sports teams!

Back To School Safety Tips

Article by Sergeant Pelletier



As summer draws to an end, back to school season is in full effect. School days bring congestion on the roadways particularly in the morning hours when commuter traffic is the heaviest. Yellow school buses will be busy picking up children, kids will be walking and riding their bicycles to school and parents will be in a hurry to drop their kids off at school to make it to work on time. All in all, the number one safety concern is the safety of our children. Here are a few tips to exercise to make sure everyone is safe:

1. Please exercise caution and patience while the buses are stopped picking up or dropping off children on the roads or in school parking lots. More children are hit by vehicles near schools than any other location. Remember that it is illegal to pass school buses when the flashing red lights are activated. This is the law on the public way and in school parking lots when they are unloading and loading children. Please do not try to beat the red lights while the yellow lights are flashing. Instead be prepared to stop. Adjust your morning schedules and leave for work earlier if you find that school buses are hindering the amount of time you have to travel to work in the mornings.
2. Share the roadway with young pedestrians walking on foot or riding on bicycles. Watch for children walking along the roadways and on sidewalks. Watch for children crossing the roads and crossing in crosswalks. Please take extra care to look out for children in school zones and in residential areas.
3. Obey the rules of the roadway. Stay off the phones and no texting while driving. Whether children walk, ride their bicycles or take the bus to school, it is extremely important that they and the motorists around them take the proper safety precautions.

**On behalf of the Town of Hermon and the Penobscot County Sheriff's Office,
please make this a safe school year for everyone! The children are our future!**

Assessing Office



Property Owners:

Just a reminder William Perkins from the Assessing Office is still out & about town finishing up the field work to update all properties with structures in the Town. If you have not already, you may receive a visit from him to update measurements and take a current photo of your property. William is carrying an Official Town of Hermon Photo ID with him. If you are concerned or have questions, should you see a person taking pictures or walking your property, ask to see their ID. Please feel free to contact the Assessing Office if you have questions at assessor@hermon.net or 848-1044 or 848-1049. It is the Assessing Department's intent to have this project completed by early fall.

The measurement information will be verified to the property card information on file. The pictures will also be added to the property card which is used in the Assessing Office.

The Assessing Department would also like to thank our property owners for your cooperation for allowing our staff to visit your property, gather information, and photographing your structures.

For our property owners receiving the Homestead Property Tax Exemption you will see the amount increase from \$15,000 to \$20,000 this year.

The Assessing Office plan for commitment of taxes is scheduled for the end of September with tax bills being sent out sometime in October. Also remember state law requires us to assess the owner of the property as of April 1. If the property was sold after this date, the owners name of record on April 1, 2017 will appear on the tax bill.

Please go to the Town's Website at <http://www.hermon.net/departments/assessing/> for information on assessments.

The Senator's Corner



In Washington all too many bills are pushed through the legislative process by blindly partisan politicians. The recent failed attempt to repeal the Affordable Care Act Health Care Act was a classic exercise in how not to govern. It was a hatched in secret with no attempt to bring the different sides together before hand. The art of compromise was nowhere in sight. Everyone lost.

I have been working hard on a bill to establish a Task Force on the **Future of Health Care in Maine** (SP 592); it will proceed in exactly the opposite manner. It calls

for a diverse group of stakeholders from the right, left, and center to define the problems of our current health care system, solicit public input, and then begin to think about options. I am pleased that it received unanimous support in the Insurance Committee and passed the House, Senate and Legislative Council.

In January it will present the Legislature with an initial report on how to *improve the health care of all Mainers*. Options will undoubtedly include a.) ways to make our current system work better b.) an improved 'Medicare for All', c.) creation of a public option in which anyone can buy into a program like Medicare, and d.) 'other' (imagination required!). The federal government must be an integral partner. It will be a long arduous process. Our health care industry is nearly 20% of Maine's economy and change must be thoughtful and carefully executed. Ideology, personal preference, vested interests, and a general aversion to change make the task challenging.

Almost all of us agree that our health system is too complex, too expensive, and too bureaucratic. The Task Force is an open and transparent start to rethinking its future. I am convinced we can make a difference and welcome your comments!

Geoff Gratwick

947-0637 Bangor; 287-1515 Augusta geoff.gratwick@legislature.maine.gov

From the Desk of State Representative Roger Reed



Maine has an amazing network of trails makein it possible for ATV riders to travel throughout much of Maine. Trails include multi-use and multi-use rail trails through scenic recreation and wildlife areas. Check out available trail maps and club pages to get started on Maine trails. State ATV Trail Map are available. To request a copy to be mailed to you: call (207) 287-2751. In your message, please provide, your name, postal address, and phone number.

Great links to discover backwoods Maine by ATV:

Multi-use Rail Trails - http://www.maine.gov/dacf/parks/trail_activities/atv/index.shtml. Several State-owned or leased abandoned rail beds are available for multiple-use, including three-season ATV use.

Multi-use Road Systems - http://www.maine.gov/dacf/parks/about/public_reserved_lands.shtml
Many of the Public Reserved Lands road systems are open to ATV use.

If ATV use is allowed on a road, it will be marked with a shared use sign. If there are designated ATV trail systems, they will have the regular ATV trail signs on them. If roads or trails don't have these signs, ATV use is prohibited!

Wildlife Management District roads (The Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife) are generally open to ATV use; however, remember to always tread lightly and be respectful of other users of these properties.
http://www.maine.gov/dacf/parks/trail_activities/atv/index.shtml

Please contact me should you have any questions. My email is: Roger.Reed@Legislature.Maine.gov. Also, if you would like to receive my E-Newsletter, please let me know at the above email address.

From the Desk of Public Works...

Newsworthy:

Ralph Shaw has been promoted to the position of Public Works Supervisor and will be responsible for the day to day operations of the department. Ralph assumes responsibility for scheduling residential work, right of way questions, driveway entrance applications, drainage issues and emergencies that our local department handles. His work will also include winter road maintenance duties.

Ralph can be reached by calling the Hermon Town Office at 848-1010 to leave a message or directly at his cell phone : 570-6494.



Did you know?

- Hermon Public Works provides a pile of sand for slippery walks and driveway entrances for private use at the Public Works Yard during the winter months.
- You can report sight distance issues that need to be cured to the Hermon Public Works department.
- Hermon has approximately 15 miles of State Aid Roads in Town controlled by the MDOT.
- Hermon Public works can help with emergency washouts and drainage issues in the right of way.
- The Town of Hermon has paved nearly 15 miles of local and State aid roads over the last two years.

Call Hermon Public Works at 570-6494 with questions or EMAIL: Ralph at ShawR@Hermon.net
<http://www.hermon.net/departments/public-works/>

Senior Citizen Community Meals

Where: Hermon Elementary School

When: 3rd Wednesday of each month

Time: 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Fee: \$3.00 per person

Reservations please:
Contact the Rec office at 848-4075
or email dowj@hermon.net

Wednesday - September 20

Chop Suey
Salad
Pumpkin Square



Code Enforcement Dept.

- Do I need a permit for this?
- What are my set backs?
- Is this going to increase my taxes?

Find yourself asking these questions? Give Josh Berry a call at 848-1042 or visit our website www.hermon.net.

I look forward to helping you!



Introducing a new Hermon business!



2312 Route 2 PO Box 6032
Hermon, Maine
(207) 848-2850

Frankie Noyes has been perfecting his craft in the auto service industry for over 15 years. Having worked at a local GM dealership in high school and then training as a FORD Asset Master Tech in college, he moved to a local Toyota dealership gaining 8 more years of mechanical repair experience.

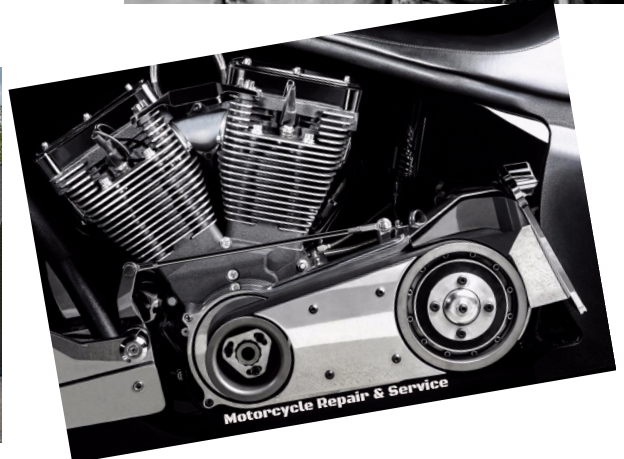
Between 2012 and 2014 the business grew to include his wife, Kristin who left her job to take over administrative duties. The business expanded to include hiring employees with expert skill sets in fabrication, welding and heavy equipment experience.

The Shop, Inc. prides itself in customer communication...

“We enjoy the show and tell approach to automotive repairs so our customers can see first hand why repairs are needed” said Kristin Noyes recently during a tour of the new facility.

Hermon now can boast it has a first class repair shop and inspection station for both motorcycles, autos and recreational vehicles. Commercial fleet services and maintenance programs are also available at *The Shop, Inc.*

Call today for all of your vehicle's needs!



www.FACEBOOK.COM/THESHOPINCAUTOREPAIR

Story by Scott Perkins, DECD Director

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Morita's School of Dance is celebrating it's 50 Anniversary!

Not many businesses last 50 years in this day and age. But, it seems to be a family trait, since Aquatic Development Swimming Pool Co by Tapley, Rte. 2, Hermon, is 54 years old, as well. The studio was started when Morita's parents turned their two-car garage into a dance studio. After Morita outgrew the garage for teaching space, she rented space in schools, Grange Halls and the like. In 1980, her grandparents built a studio at the top of Miller Hill. The studio stayed located there until their move to Morgan Hill Event Center in 2007. In 2013, the studio moved into it's new home at 2256 Rte. 2 and continues to hold classes at that location. It offers 2 large studios, a comfortable waiting area for parents and the Happy Feet Boutique dancewear shop. The studio space may also be rented for birthday and anniversary parties, bridal and baby showers, weddings receptions or business seminars.

Morita has been dancing since the age of 3 and started with Polly Thomas and continued dancing with Polly until her retirement. Morita also danced in the Thomasette Tap Line and the Maine State Ballet through college. She started her own studio at age 14 and has continued to dance and teach ever since. Morita was on the Board of Directors of Maine Dance Teachers Club for over 20 years. She has had studios in a variety of locations along with the Hermon location and currently has satellite studios in Dover, Milo and Old Town. Morita has also choreographed for many musical productions, including many for Hermon High School.

Morita's daughter, Melody, was dancing before she was born, studied dance in college and continued to teach until she moved out of state, due to her husband's job. The newest addition to the family, 17 month old Liam, shows all the signs of loving music and will make his first dance performance in the 50th Production this spring! Melody continues to be involved with the studio, thanks to modern technology.

In 1989, Morita's School of Dance was invited to the Young Americans Invitational Dance Festival in LA, CA. This is where Morita met the Young Americans and since 1999, the Young American's come to Maine every 3 years for their Musical Outreach Workshop for 3rd-12th grades and college age kids. The Young Americans will be hosted by Hermon HS September 21-23rd, 2017 and Orono HS, September 24th & 25th, 2017. These workshops are open to all area students and is an amazing experience for all involved. Forty Young American's will need housing for Sept. 21-23rd in the Hermon area, if anyone would be interested in hosting two Young American's in their home. There have been many Maine students who have auditioned for the Young American's and have had the outstanding experience of being able to travel worldwide with the Young Americans. This is not just for dancers, but also singers, tech crew and more.

Morita's School of Dance has also represented the State of Maine at Dance Excellence in LA, CA, being invited to the first Dance Excellence in 1991. A group of dancers from the studio will be representing the State of Maine again this year, March 30th-April 7th. This is for dancers 8 years though college and space is still available to attend Dance Excellence. Dancers from other studios are welcome to join us. The dancers have classes with amazing instructors, perform in Disneyland and compete in the Performance Boards, finishing the week with a formal banquet and awards. Dance Excellence is an International event and the dancers have opportunities to make friends with dancers from around the world. Family members are welcome to attend.

The studio offers classes in Tap, Ballet, Jazz, Pointe, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Mommy/Daddy & Me, Musical Theater, Acro, Zumba, Ballroom and Yoga. Classes are offered for ages 2 through adults. The Stars Dance Team is for dancers wanting more than just weekly classes and is for dancers 1st grade - college. The Stars Dance Team performs at local events, the Festival of Lights Parade, Hermon Summer Sizzler, Hampden Children's Day and competitions. Classes begin in September and will have on-going registration.

Morland Storage is also a climate controlled storage area for cars, motorcycles, household items, etc., on the lower level of the studio.

All Alumni of Morita's School of Dance are invited to participate in the 50th Anniversary Production in May. The studio would like at least 50 Alumni to perform!! No one is ever too old to dance.

For more info, or to register contact Morita's School of Dance and speak to Miss Morita, Director or Miss Denise, Assistant Director, on line at moritasschoolofdance.net, by email at msdancestudio68@hotmail.com or by phone-848-5083.



Neighbors Supporting Neighbors Food Pantry

We serve residents of Hermon, Carmel, Etna, Levant and Dixmont providing food, toiletries, pet supplies and more. Distribution is at 2402 Rte. 2, Danforth's Supermarket Plaza.

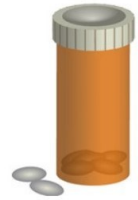
The upcoming distribution dates are:

Thursday, September 14 from 9 to 11 AM
Monday, September 28 from 9 to 11 AM
Thursday, October 12 from 9 to 11 AM
Thursday, October 26 from 9 to 11 AM
Thursday, November 9 from 9 to 11 AM
Thursday, December 7 from 9 to 11 AM
Thursday, December 21 from 9 to 11 AM

Also by appointment please contact Carol Lackedy, Volunteer Director 299-5186 or by email at Clackedy@yahoo.com



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Same Prices As Last Year! Family Discounts!**

Tap, Ballet, Jazz, Pointe, Hip Hop, TRX, Contemporary,
Yoga, Ballroom, Mommy/Daddy & Me,
Musical Theater, Zumba, Acro

Register On Line:

moritasschoolofdance.net,
msdancestudio68@hotmail.com
or 848-5083



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HERMON SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

Special Education Child Find Notice

The Hermon School Department is in compliance with federal and state regulations regarding the delivery of services to all children with special needs.

Federal statutes (I.D.E.A.) requires that the School Department identifies, locates and evaluates all children with disabilities, ages 3-20, residing within the school district. Residents who believe that their child is in need of special education services, whether attending public or private school, should contact Mrs. Brandy St. Pierre, Director of Student Services, P.O. Box 6360, Hermon, ME 04402, Telephone 848-4000, ext. 6007.

Annual Notice of Student Education Records and Information Rights

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA") provides certain rights to parents and eligible students (18 years of age or older) with respect to the student's education records. A copy of the Hermon School Department's policy statement and administrative procedure is available in each school.

Inspection of Records

Parents/ eligible students may inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of making a request. Such requests must be submitted to the Superintendent or building administrator in writing and must identify the record(s) to be inspected. The superintendent or building administrator will notify the parent/eligible student of the time and place where the record(s) may be inspected. Parents/eligible students may obtain copies of education records at a cost of ten cents (\$0.10) per page copied.

Amendment of Records

Parents/eligible students may ask the Hermon School Department to amend education records they believe are inaccurate, misleading or in violation of the student's right to privacy. Such requests must be submitted to the Superintendent or building administrator in writing, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the superintendent or building administrator decides not to amend the record as requested, the parent/eligible student will be notified of the decision, their right to request a hearing and information about the hearing procedure.

Disclosure of Records

The Hermon School Department must obtain a parent/eligible student's written consent prior to disclosure of personally identifiable information in education records except in circumstances permitted by law.

Directory Information

The Hermon School Department designates the following student information as directory information that may be made public at its discretion: name, participation and grade level of students in officially recognized activities and sports, height and weight of student athletes, dates of attendance in the Hermon School Department, and honors and awards received, and photographs and videos of student participation in school activities open to the public (except photographs and videos on the Internet). Parents/eligible students who do not want the Hermon School Department to disclose directory information must notify the Superintendent in writing by September 15th or within thirty (30) days of enrollment, whichever is later.

Military Recruiters / Institutions of Higher Learning

Military recruiters and institutions of higher education are entitled to receive the names, addresses and telephone numbers of secondary students, and the Hermon School Department must comply with any such request, provided that parents have been notified of their right to request that this information not be released without prior written consent. Parents/eligible students who do not want the Hermon School Department to disclose this information must notify the Superintendent in writing by September 15th or within thirty (30) days of enrollment, whichever is later.

School Officials with Legitimate Educational Interests

Education records may be disclosed to school officials with a “legitimate educational interest.” A school official has a legitimate educational interest if he/she needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his/her professional responsibility. School officials include persons employed by the Hermon School Department as an administrator, supervisor, instructor or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); members of the Hermon School Committee; persons or companies with whom the Hermon School Department has contracted to provide specific services (such as attorneys, auditors, medical consultants, evaluators or therapists); and parents, students and volunteers serving on an official committee (such as a disciplinary or grievance committee) or assisting a school official in performing his/her professional responsibilities.

Health or Safety Emergencies

In accordance with federal regulations, the Hermon School Department may disclose education records without prior written consent in a health and safety emergency to any person whose knowledge or the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.

Other School Units

As required by Maine law, the Hermon School Department sends student education records to a school unit to which a student applies for transfer, including disciplinary records, attendance records, special education records and health records (except for confidential health records for which consent for dissemination has not been obtained).

Other Entities / Individuals

Education records may be disclosed to other entities and individuals as specifically permitted by law. Parents/eligible students may obtain information about other exceptions to the written consent requirements by request to the Superintendent or building administrator.

Complaints Regarding School Department Compliance with FERPA

Parents/eligible students who believe that the Hermon School Department has not complied with the requirements of FERPA have the right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education. The office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C.

Postal Customer



***Annual Grass Drag Event
September 30, 2017***

Admission: \$10.00
VIP Parking
First Come - First Served \$25.00
Limited Availability

Proximity Parking \$5.00
Across the road

***Vintage Snow Race
March 3, 2018
Save the Date!!***

***With fall upon us there are several dates
I would like to remind you about.***

October 4 - Absentee ballots available.

October 9 - Town Office Closed – Columbus Day

October 15 – 2018 dog tags will be available. Your dog must be licensed for 2018 by 01/31/18 to avoid paying the \$25.00 late fee.

October 15 – 2018 Snowmobile Registrations will be available for purchase.

November 7 - State of Maine Referendum Election. Polls open at 7am at Hermon Elementary School.

My office is open. Never hesitate to stop by or call, if you have questions or concerns I can assist you with. If you have ideas on how we can improve our services here at the front counter, we want to know. We are here to serve you and your thoughts and opinions are important to us. Thank you.

*Sincerely,
Ruth A. Nickerson, CCM
Town Clerk*